REMARKS

The rejections presented in the Office Action dated March 15, 2005 have been considered. The traversals of the claim rejections of the first Office Action and the arguments presented in response to those rejections are maintained and incorporated by reference in this response. Claims 1-13 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Office Action Summary sheet indicates that objections are made to the specification and drawings. However, no explanation is provided in the detailed Remarks portion of the Office Action. Furthermore, the Office Action dated August 30, 2004 did not state any objections to the specification or drawings. Therefore, no amendments to the specification and drawings are thought to be necessary.

The Office Actions do not establish that claims 1-5 and 10-13 are anticipated under 35 USC §102(a) by "Aziz" (US patent 6,643,701 to Aziz et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Actions fail to show that Aziz teaches all the limitations of the claims.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for managing sessions between mobile communication devices and an application program hosted on a data processing system with a gateway module that is coupled to the mobile communications devices and to the application program. The method includes generating at the gateway module respective first session identifiers upon receipt of initial requests from the mobile communication devices at the gateway module and transmitting the first session identifiers to the application program; associating the first session identifiers with corresponding second session identifiers from the application program at the gateway module; and in response to subsequent communications from the mobile devices to the application program, transmitting from the gateway module to the application program the second session identifiers that are associated with the first session identifiers of the mobile devices of the subsequent communications. These limitations are clearly not shown to be taught by Aziz.

The recent Office Action asserts that Aziz's session keys correspond to the claimed first session identifier and second session identifier. However, Aziz's session keys do not identify a session. Rather, Aziz clearly teaches that a session

6

key is used to securely transmit information within a session. The Examiner incorrectly asserts that "One particular session of communication, out of many sessions, may be identified by the product of the key and the encrypted communications." This assertion is incorrect because the server must first determine which of the session keys to use for decryption before it can decrypt the data it receives. As far as Aziz is understood, when Aziz's server receives encrypted data, the session key is not received along with the received data. Thus, Aziz apparently uses some other mechanism to determine the correct session key before decrypting the received data. A key by itself does not identify anything; it is generally understood to unlock something. The something must be determined from some other source (e.g., a door key found in a parking lot does not identify the door). Therefore, Aziz's session keys are not shown to correspond to the claimed first and second session identifiers, nor is Aziz's use of session keys shown to correspond to the claimed use of the first and second identifiers.

The Office Actions further fails to show that Aziz teaches the limitations of, in response to subsequent communications from the mobile devices to the application program, transmitting from the gateway module to the application program the second session identifiers that are associated with the first session identifiers of the mobile devices of the subsequent communications. Aziz's teachings at col. 2, l. 56-65 and col. 8, l. 28-32, and 48-56 are cited as teaching these limitations. However, even if Aziz's session key are assumed to corresponded to the claimed first and second identifiers, Aziz does not teach transmitting the second session identifiers. The cited portions of Aziz apparently teach that in initiating a session resumption, a client may identify itself to the server and indicate that it will continue to use the agreed upon keys from the previous handshaking. Thus, there is apparent need for, or teaching of retransmission of a session key from the client to the server.

Claims 2-5 and 10-13 are not shown to be anticipated by Aziz for at least the reasons set forth above.

The Office Action fails to establish that claims 6-9 are unpatentable under 35 USC §103(a) over Aziz in view of "Sparks" (US patent number 6,167,382 to Sparks et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show

that all the limitations are suggested by the references and fails to provide a proper motivation for modifying the teachings of Aziz with teachings of Sparks.

Among other limitations claim 6 includes limitations of receiving checkout requests from the wireless communication devices at the gateway module and transferring the checkout requests to a wallet module that manages user authentication. The Office Action cites Sparks' col. 2, l. 36-49. However, there is no apparent element in this portion of Sparks that corresponds to the gateway module at which checkout requests are received. Nor is there any apparent element that corresponds to the claimed wallet module to which the checkout requests are sent.

Claim 7 depends claim 6 and is not shown to be unpatentable for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and includes further the limitations: in response to a payment request from a wireless communications device, transmitting the payment request from the gateway module to the merchant application, disassociating the wireless session identifier from the corresponding merchant session identifier, and generating a new wireless session identifier for the wireless communications device when another initial request is received from the wireless communications device. As explained above in regards to claim 6, Sparks is not shown to teach the claimed gateway module and operations thereof.
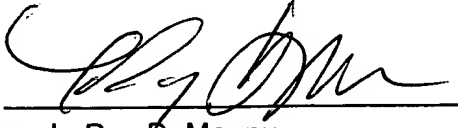
Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and is not shown to be unpatentable for at least the reasons set forth above.

The rejection of claims 6-9 over the Aziz-Sparks combination should be withdrawn because the Office Action fails to show all the limitations are suggested by the combination and the alleged motivation for combining the references is conclusory.

Withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the remarks set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,

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